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ABSTRACT

This guide was prepared to assist teachers planning a field trip to a major 1994 exhibit at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library. The curriculum guide is divided into three sections: (1) background information on the Civil War, its causes and effects and a chronology from 1860 to 1865; (2) excerpts from Civil War letters from June 6, 1863 to April 21, 1865, seen as the heart of the war years; and (3) a "taste" of army life with recipes for replicating camp cooking. A short bibliography for grades 5-6 is included. (EH)

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The Civil War

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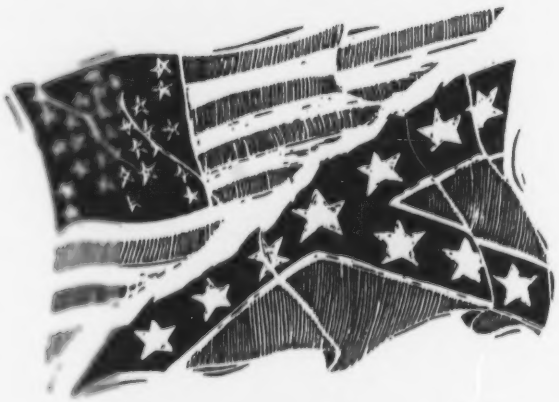

A Teacher Guide

April 16 through October 30, 1994

Herbert Hoover Library/Museum
West Branch, Iowa
319/643-5301

SO 025 381

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Herbert Hoover Library

West Branch, Iowa 52358

April 15, 1994

Dear Teacher:

All of us here at the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum are delighted to provide this guide to "The Civil War". It was prepared to assist you in planning a productive field trip to our major 1994 exhibit.

The curriculum guide is divided into three sections. The first is background information on the Civil War -- its causes and effects, with a chronology spanning from 1860 to 1865. The second section includes excerpts from Civil War letters from June 6, 1863 to April 21, 1865, the heart of the war years. The last section will give the students a "taste" of army life with recipes for replicating camp cooking.

This guide was prepared with the assistance of many Hoover Library staff members including: Mary Evans, Janlyn Ewald, Maureen Harding, Chris Mouw, Jenny Pedersen, Dale Mayer, Wade Slinde, Scott Nollen, and Sylvia Ferguson.

Thank you for your interest in the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and its education programs. We welcome your input on how we can make history come alive for your students at the Hoover Library!

Sincerely,

Timothy Walch
Acting Director

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"The Civil War"

The Civil War was the greatest constitutional crisis in American history. Brother fought against brother and cousin against cousin -- all for the sake of the elusive concepts of "union and freedom."

The Southern states had no right to withdraw from the Union, argued the North. And since America was conceived in liberty, slavery must be abolished, even in the South.

State sovereignty, proclaimed the South, was the very foundation of the American Revolution. The war against England had been fought to protect individual citizens and their property rights.

It was these conflicting notions of union and freedom -- North and South -- that would lead this nation into the bloodiest war in its history.

The Northern States On The Eve Of War

Northern society was as diverse as it was dynamic in the decades before The Civil War. The culture and economy of New England and the Mid-Atlantic states had been dominated by agriculture in the first decades after independence. But beginning in the 1820s, the pace of life began to quicken and diversify.

New manufacturing enterprises stimulated the need for more workers. Immigrants from Ireland and Germany brought new cultural and religious traditions as well as congestion to the cities. Those disillusioned with urban life migrated west and sought new opportunities in the rich farm land of the Middle West and Great Plains.

Tying this expanding and often tumultuous society together was a spirit of optimism and invention. Northerners capitalized on new ideas, used interchangeable parts for mass production, and manufactured industrial tools and farm implements for greater economic productivity. The railroads and the telegraph, with tens of thousands of miles of rails and wire, insured that East and West would be linked forever. Economic progress also became an incentive for social reform -- common schooling for children, fighting the evils of drink, strengthening the family, and other changes to rid American society of its evils.

And there was no more visible threat to these social values than the peculiar institution of slavery. From 1830 to 1860, the North came to view slavery as the symbol of human suffering and Southern corruption. Northerners were particularly alarmed by efforts to expand slavery into the new territories acquired from Mexico. Something must be done to end this wicked institution.

The Southern States On The Eve Of War

In the decades before the Civil War, the hallmarks of Southern society were suspicion and tradition. Southerners believed that Northern aggression against slavery was part of a larger conspiracy against Southern culture. Attacks on slavery raised fundamental questions about states' rights, personal property, and human liberty.

Slavery was vital to the Southern economy, and protecting and expanding slavery became the rallying cry for rebellion. The powerful slave-holding minority convinced their fellow Southerners that abolition of slavery would lead to economic ruin and social chaos.

Ironically, removing the seeds from cotton had been labor intensive and expensive. But when a Connecticut inventor visiting the South in 1792 devised a simple machine for removing the seeds, Eli Whitney's cotton "gin" made cotton both profitable and crucial. The subsequent dominance of cotton imprisoned the economy of the South because all available capital was invested in cotton and slaves. There was no money for manufacturing, railroads, or other types of economic investment.

Pre-war Southern society seemed frozen in time, even quite feudal -- with lords of large estates cared for by white vassals and black serfs. More important, Southern society lacked the robust economic growth, the growing educated work force, and the desire for social reform so manifestly present in the Northern states.

The South resented the North's high price of finished goods and accusations that slavery was immoral and their society corrupt. But above all else, Southerners resented the intrusion of the federal government in matters of private property and personal liberty. The last straw came with the election of Abraham Lincoln, feared by many as a tyrant.

A CONFEDERATE FLAG

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1860
Edging Toward Secession

Our young nation, not yet 100 years old, seemed determined to tear itself apart in bitter arguments over states' rights and individual human rights. After a particularly bitter decade filled with sharp accusations, smoldering resentments, and bloodshed in Missouri and Kansas, the presidential election of 1860 threatened to demolish the fragile union of states.

Within a month of the election Southerners had rejected Abraham Lincoln as the president-elect. Three members of outgoing President Buchanan's Cabinet resigned in December. On December 20th the South Carolina state legislature adopted an "Ordinance of Succession," becoming the first state to announce that it was leaving the Union.

Six days later a small detachment of U.S. troops were transferred to Fort Sumter in the harbor at Charleston, SC. The next day, South Carolina authorities seized two other federal forts in the harbor at Charleston. A South Carolina delegation arrived in Washington that same day to open negotiations with the Buchanan administration.

As the year came to a close, several other Southern states edged closer and closer toward secession. Northerners believed that both the Union and its Constitution were in serious danger of being destroyed.

Abraham Lincoln, President-Elect
"..A house divided against itself cannot stand..."

The people did not know what to make of Abe Lincoln, the man from Illinois elected president in 1860. He was best known for his defense of the Union and his opposition to slavery. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," Lincoln said in 1858. "I believe this government cannot exist half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved -- I do not expect the house to fall -- but I do expect it will cease to be divided."

Yet for all his powerful words, Lincoln was not a popular choice for president. He had not even been the first choice of his Republican Party and yet he would soon govern a nation divided. The North hoped that he was the "rail splitter" who would uphold the Union and resist secession. The South feared that he was a "tyrant" who would trample states rights and abolish slavery.

Lincoln offered few clues about his plans for the presidency at his inauguration in March 1861. He had said previously that he would resist secession, but he also denied any intention to interfere with slavery. His every word and action were scrutinized, especially those concerning the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter. Lincoln reinforced the garrison as long as possible.

After Sumter fell on April 13th, Lincoln treated the conflict as rebellion. He summoned the militia, ordered a blockade, and expanded the regular army. Lincoln was a war president even before Congress recognized a state of war in July of 1861.

1861
The War Will Be Over In Six Weeks

During the closing days of 1860, several attempts had been made to neutralize the impending crisis but neither side was willing to compromise. During the winter of 1861 six more states (Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas) seceded. State authorities throughout the South seized federal forts, arsenals, ships and dockyards.

The regular U.S. Army numbered only 17,323 on March 4th at Abraham Lincoln's inauguration as president. Two days later a Confederate army of 100,000 men was established by Confederate President Jefferson Davis. After the April bombardment of Ft. Sumter, Lincoln ordered the blockade of all Southern ports and called for 75,000 volunteers to serve for three months. On May 6th the Confederate Congress passed a declaration of war. Lincoln refused to declare war because that would imply that the South was an independent nation. Four more states (Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina) seceded.

Both sides clung to the hope that war would be brief, but after the first Battle of Bull Run, they realized that the war would not be a short one. In the last major battle of 1861 at Wilson's Creek, MO, Union forces were again soundly defeated. These defeats disturbed Union confidence. The North realized it would take time to seize control of the Mississippi, blockade Southern ports and slowly crush the Rebels. The South determined to hold out until the North grew tired of war and allowed the Southern states to leave the Union. If England and France recognized the Confederacy's independence, the North would find it hard to maintain the blockade and avoid war with those countries. Nevertheless, recognition was withheld because trade with the North was more prosperous.

Five months of fighting did little to strain the financial or manpower resources of either side. The Union blockade caught very few blockade runners in 1861, but the South's extensive pre-war trade with the North was cut off. The future of the Confederacy would depend upon its ability to secure foreign loans and diplomatic recognition.

1862
Unconditional Surrender and Emancipation

Both sides were aware of the importance of the border states of Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Maryland. The South, which had built Forts Henry and Donelson on the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers to prevent a Union invasion, lost both forts in early 1862. After U.S. Grant laid siege to Ft. Donelson and demanded its unconditional surrender, "Unconditional Surrender" Grant became an overnight hero.

In the East, McClellan's long-awaited campaign to capture the Confederate capitol ended with an army badly mauled by Lee's forces. Because of the defeat at Second Bull Run and the general's reluctance to crush Lee's army at Antietam, Lincoln fired McClellan. The frustrating search for a general who could lead the North to victory would lead Lincoln to replace McClellan first with Ambrose Burnside and later, with Joseph Hooker.

After Antietam, Lincoln issued an Emancipation Proclamation to take effect on January 1, 1863, which clarified his determination to end slavery. This Northern victory also convinced England and France to suspend plans to recognize the Confederate government.

It became increasingly difficult for the Confederacy to sustain its war effort. The Union blockade's efficiency improved dramatically and successful attempts to run the blockade dropped significantly. The South's volunteer army proved inadequate and the Davis government began drafting men between the ages of 18 and 35. The South had made a mistake in failing to seek European financing after its early victories when Southern credit was still strong. Desperate measures would now have to be found.

LINCOLN IN GEN. McCLELLAND'S TENT

Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation

The president's hand was trembling as he signed the proclamation on the first day of the new year. "If my name ever goes into history, "Abraham Lincoln told those present, "it will be for this act."

The Emancipation Proclamation, the document that freed all slaves in the Confederacy, had been a long time coming. In spite of pressure from the abolitionist, Lincoln had not planned to free the slaves when he became president. To be sure, Lincoln hated slavery, but he hoped to find a compromise that would preserve the Union and gradually free the slaves.

But compromise was not possible. By the summer of 1862, after 16 hard months of war, even Lincoln agreed that freeing the slaves was "a military necessity absolutely essential to the preservation of the Union." He drafted the proclamation in July and waited until the next Union victory -- at Antietam in September -- to make it public. On January 1, 1863, by order of the president, all slaves in rebellious states were "forever free."

The act was not popular in the North and the Democrats made substantial gains in the congressional elections of 1862 as a result. There was no turning back, however, "In giving freedom to the slave," Lincoln told Congress, "we assure freedom for the free -- honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve." The document that freed the slaves had become a charter of freedom for all Americans.

1863
The Tide Begins To Turn

With Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation which freed slaves in Confederate territory, the abolition of slavery had become an official war aim. Abolitionists were pleased but many Northerners continued to believe that the war should be fought only to restore the Union.

Although 1863 started with a Union defeat at Chancellorsville, Lee's costly defeat at Gettysburg ended his ability to take the offensive. With Grant's victory at Vicksburg and Sherman's victory at Missionary Ridge, the door was now open to Union domination in the West. Because of these Northern victories, the British stopped building warships for the Confederate navy; feeling that the South would lose the war.

In 1863 the Union began to draft men aged 20-45. Both Union and Confederate drafts were unpopular because they allowed middle and upper class men to escape the draft by purchasing "substitutes." This feature was largely responsible for bloody riots in Boston and New York City.

As the war continued both sides needed new ways to pay for the war. The North sold $2 billion dollars of war bonds, printed large amounts of paper money and levied new taxes. The Confederacy was forced to inflate the value of their paper money and levied a very unpopular tax to be paid "in kind" (crops, lumber, tobacco, rice, or cotton). These desperate measures shook public confidence and support for the Davis government.

The war also began to wear down the civilian population. The inadequacy of the South's industry and transportation system caused shortages of shoes, food and medicines. Women replaced their men in the fields and planted food instead of cotton. Meanwhile, Northern industry produced machinery which allowed a smaller farm labor force to actually increase production. This industrial strength was beginning to prove its essential role in winning a war. If only Lincoln could find a general.

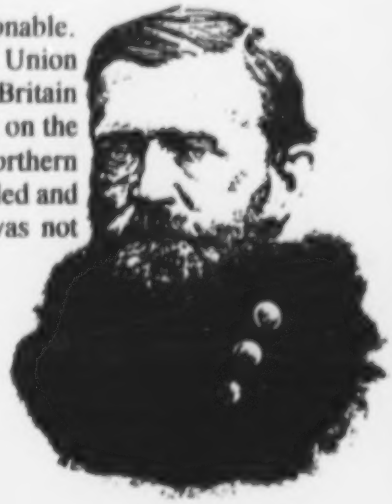
1864
A General Is Found

As the war entered its third year Jefferson Davis faced serious political problems: European recognition of the Confederacy was highly unlikely, the military draft and the "tax in kind" had robbed Davis' government of its popular support, and the South's belief in a loosely-knot confederation of states hampered the efficient coordination of the war effort. To make matters worse, Davis was arrogant and antagonized many rich and powerful Southerners. Although Lincoln's cabinet was full of enemies and critics, he was politically flexible and a highly skilled politician. Lincoln managed to turn most of them into loyal, if reluctant, supporters.

Grant was named commander of all Union armies and launched simultaneous attacks on all fronts. Despite heavy losses, Union troops rejoiced when Grant continued to attack, never giving Lee a chance to relax or maneuver. After the fall of Atlanta, Sherman cut the Deep South in two with his March to the Sea.

These military successes were very important because 1864 was an election year. In July Lincoln pocket vetoed a controversial bill which provided harsh treatment for Southern states once they were taken back into the Union. This cost Lincoln some political support with radical elements of Lincoln's own party who thought that the war was not being fought bitterly enough. The capture of Atlanta in September offset much of the criticism, and Lincoln defeated McClellan to win a second term with 55 percent of the popular vote.

The South's ability to continue the war effort became questionable. They still hoped that a shortage of cotton brought on by the Union blockade, would persuade the British to intervene. But Britain found new cotton sources in India and Egypt, and depended on the North for much of its wheat and flour. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia had not been defeated, but it was virtually surrounded and was slowly being starved into submission. The outlook was not promising.



1865

The Last Full Measure of Devotion

Congress approved the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, outlawing slavery on January 31st. On February 3rd Lincoln held a conference with Confederate delegates. The President was willing to urge Congress to compensate slave owners for the freed slaves, but beyond that neither side was willing to budge. A touch of irony was added in March when the Confederate Congress tried to find a new source of manpower by authorizing the use of slaves as soldiers.

Sherman's offensive northward through South Carolina, combined with Grant's Union line south of Petersburg, caused Lee in desperation to try and reach the mountains to the West. When Sheridan's cavalry cut him off, Lee was forced to surrender at Appomattox on April 9th.

The Confederate government, including Jefferson Davis, fled from Richmond on April 2nd. The Cabinet dispersed after a final meeting at North Carolina, and Davis was captured in Georgia on May 10th. Johnston surrendered to Sherman on April 26th. Scattered resistance continued throughout the lower South and Texas, where the last battle took place on May 13th at Palmito Ranch.

Lincoln's assassination at Ford's Theatre was an omen of evil things to come. His successor, Vice President Andrew Johnson, aroused the wrath of radicals in Congress by announcing his intention to carry out Lincoln's moderate plans for the restoration of the South.

THE SURRENDER OF LEE TO GRANT AT APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE

1865-77
Reconstruction Not Reconciliation

The collapse of the Confederacy and the surrender of its armies brought an end to the fighting, but the legacy of bitterness and resentment on both sides has never been fully forgiven. Over a million young men were killed or wounded and the economic costs were equally heavy: the Union spent $10-15 billion on its war effort and the South about $2.6 billion, plus over $5.5 billion in property damage and other losses.

Lincoln's post war plans were very lenient: amnesty for most CSA officials, and restoration of state governments after 10% of the 1860 electorate pledged their allegiance to the Union. Whether Lincoln could have outmaneuvered the revenge-seeking congressmen is doubtful, but his assassination poisoned the atmosphere in which Reconstruction would take place. His successor, Vice President Andrew Johnson, tried to carry out the spirit of Lincoln's plan, but soon ran into opposition from Congress. They divided the South into military occupation districts, passed the 13th and 14th amendments to the Constitution which abolished slavery and gave Blacks the right to vote, and required the new state governments to ratify those amendments as a condition for readmission to the Union.

Unscrupulous whites established state governments which stole and misspent tens of millions of dollars. In 1866, ex-Confederate general Nathan Bedford Forrest established the Ku Klux Klan to oppose military occupation and re-establish white supremacy. In the North, the scandals of the Grant administration and dissatisfaction with repressive reconstruction measures led to growing sympathy for the South.

In the presidential election of 1876, widespread voting irregularities were settled by a Republican-dominated commission which eventually declared Republican Rutherford B. Hayes the winner. Outrage and talk of resuming the war swept over the South, but Southerners were appeased by Hayes' advisors. They promised to withdraw federal occupation troops, spend millions of dollars to develop Southern waterways and railroads, and appoint a Southerner to Hayes' cabinet. In 1877 Reconstruction was officially over, but the inheritance of the Civil War and its bitter aftermath is still being weighed after 130 years.

Civil War Letters with Historical Perspectives

They were ordinary citizens being turned into soldiers. They would learn to move to the blare of trumpets and beat of drums. They would learn to pitch a tent in ten minutes, jump to attention when officers passed and march in darkness and driving rain.

As the weeks in camp stretched into months, the novelty of the soldiers' routine would begin to fade. Letters from home became increasingly more important.

The following are excerpts taken from letters written by Mr. Augustus P. Hoadley dating from June 6, 1863 -- April 21, 1865. (Take note of the spelling and grammar of the era.)

> I inherited these letters when my uncle passed away. They came neatly stacked in a shoe box, tied together by a pink ribbon. The "Emma" mentioned in the letters is my great-grandmother.

Little is known about the author other that what we can glean from his writings. His letters are reflections of an ordinary soldier with a quiet wish to "once again return to peace."

General Hospital Aquia Creek Va
June 6th 1863

Emma, Sister Dear,

...I rec'd your letter of May 28th & was glad to get it yet surprised that you could not fill a whole sheet, there are thousands of things for you to write about if you only knew it. You don't say a word about any of the neighbors. What they are doing & hasent Father planted anything in the garden but beans? Why don't you tell me all about everything? How much new fence has he made this spring? Have you got any pigs, chickens or goslings? What has become of the addition Father was building? I haven't heard anything about it lately. Has it fallen down or been given up as a bad job, there when you write again you can answer these questions if you can't find anything more sensible to write...

...How I'd like to be at home for a while. My thoughts are continually reverting to "Clapper Hill". Now don't begin to think that I am uneasy in fire, not a bit of it, it is only natural that I should desire to see home...

With much love Augustus

Tentin' on the old Campground

Many young soldiers, away from home for the first time, found the comradeship of military life and being a part of a great crusade highly exciting. Recruits from some poor rural areas were pleased to get regular meals and new uniforms. However, they soon encountered the reality of boredom and sickness. Sanitary conditions in the camps were terrible and, since there were no antibiotics, more soldiers died of contagious diseases than from wounds.

Training was very inadequate, including little more than parade ground drill. Target practice would have been very beneficial, but the high command thought it was unnecessary. At the beginning of the war, most officers could not deploy their men from a marching formation into line of battle. This was a vital skill, as some poorly-trained regiments soon found out to their regret.

Civil War soldiers had to provide their own amusement. Gambling, practical jokes, minstrel shows, baseball, wheelbarrow races, checkers, chasing greased pigs, making up and singing sarcastic songs, and mock court martials were all popular. Very often thoughts would drift homeward and sentimental ballads were sung around the campfire. Letters from loved ones were pulled out to be read once more.

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Hospital 3d Div 1st AC
Culpepper, Virginia
March 13th 1864

Sister Emma

...I have written Father two letters since I recd that box but have received no answer in one (the first) I expressed my thanks to all who sent a share in the box...

...My health is good at present...I am not sure but I shall have to go to the regt (regiment) again, there is some talk of breaking up this Corps & putting it in the sixth. There is no certainty yet that it will be done but such is the talk...

...I guess for want of something better to write I must tell you of an occurrence that took place here a few nights ago.

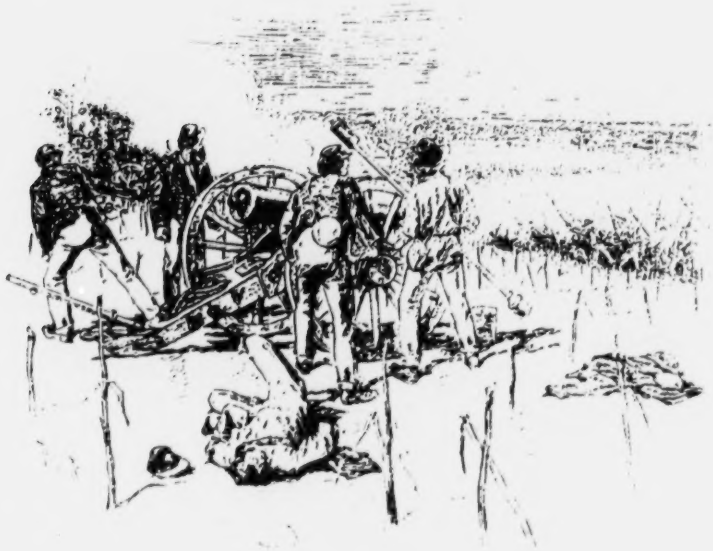
A man shot himself an axcident while out on picket and was brought to this hospital. He was shot through the arm and the bone was so badly shattered that the doctor had to take it off, fortunately it was his left arm. It looks rather hard to see a man's arm sawed off, but to one who is used to such sights it is not so affecting...

From your brother
Guss

Medical Care

The medical care given in hospitals and battlefield surgical tents was, by modern standards, primitive and haphazard. Men of both armies were often more afraid of being sent to these places than of being killed outright. The standard bullet used by both armies (the "mini ball") was partially hollow, and often exploded with shattering effect upon bone. Because of the lack of proper bone setting techniques and the danger of infection, badly damaged arms or legs were simply cut off. An abdominal wound meant a slow, painful death by peritonitis. The piles of amputated arms and legs outside medical tents and the pitiful screams were enough to horrify even the bravest soldier.

Once a wounded man arrived at the hospital he had to fight inevitable infection. It is said that the common sponge (used over and over again on many different patients) killed more men in the hospital than bullets did on the battlefield. Corruption, inadequate food and medical supplies, and untrained hospital staffs all added up to a scandalous situation. Both governments took actions which improved medical care dramatically by the end of the war.



Camp of 143d Pa Vols
Near Culpeper Va
April 17th/64

Dear Sister

When I came in from picket today I found -- awaiting my arrival a letter from your dear self.

...I am not sure but it have been the best plan for Charlie to have enlisted, concidering the chance of being drafted. He could have come to our company if he chose. I expect it would be hard for father to get along without him. Yet he may lose him yet to draft & loose the bounty in the bargain. But he must do as he feels about that. One thing I can tell him it is no easy business soldiering. If it is I can't see it that's all...

...We were paid yesterday two months pay. I told father I should send him forty dollars but then thought we should get four months pay. There is some of the boys owing me some and if I get it now I will try and send him twenty five dollars.

There is certainly a move on hand. Everything is being prepared for it. There is to be an inspection tomorrow morning at 8 Ock which certainly means something...

...I am compleetly up a stump for news to write. There is nothing going on at present to create an excitement so you will have to put up with a poor letter this time...

Oh I must tell you some news that I just happen to think of Mr. Myron Towne of our Compy, went before the examining board and is going to get a 1st Lieuts Commission in a negro regt. He was Quarter master seargeant in our Reg. I must go now so good bye.

Wishing you all much happiness. I remain your loving brother.
Augustus

From Slave to Soldier

The decision to use Blacks as soldiers came out of practical necessity. By late 1862 the Union army was not filling its quota of enlistments, and there was increasing resentment over the draft. There was considerable hostility among white soldiers toward Black troops, but common sense prevailed that "a Black man could stop a Rebel bullet just the same." The first regiment of African-American soldiers was mustered into the federal service in October 1862.

Over 150,000 African-Americans served in the Union armies. Many of these men were brutally abducted by Union recruitment gangs, but many more eagerly volunteered and were willing to fight. Most Black soldiers were given garrison duty or used for hard labor, but some units distinguished themselves in combat. The 54th Massachusetts earned the respect of friends and foe alike for its heroic but failed assault on Ft. Wagner in Charleston Harbor.

In addition to facing the blatant racism of their white comrades, Black soldiers received little mercy from their enemies. The worst single atrocity of the war occurred at Ft. Pillow, TN, in 1864. Nathan Bedford Forrest's Confederate raiders stormed the fort, and 200 of the helpless defenders who had surrendered -- most of them Black -- were massacred. The Emancipation Proclamation gave African-Americans freedom from slavery, but making them soldiers put them on the road to equality.

"...It was a very interesting and a very touching sight to see the first colored regiment from this city march down the street for the front. They were a fine body of men and had a look of satisfaction in their faces, as though they felt they had gained a right to be more respected. Many old respectable darkies stood at the street corners, men and women with tears in their eyes as if they saw the redemption of their race afar off but still the beginning of a better state of affairs for them."

--Maria Lydig Daly

Hospital at Kenmore House
Fredericks Burg Virginia
May 20th 1864

My Dear Sister

I received a letter from you on the 7th and of course was glad to hear from you. I was at the hospital when I received your note. Have not been in the fight since the first day having been detailed at the hospital to assist in taking care of the wounded. I suppose because I have had some experience in that business.

This has been terrable. I wish I could tell you the numbers of killed & wounded but I can not. It would be a terrable list. We have suffered severely.

The last I heard from our Company there were only eight men left & they were commanded by the 8th corporal. Our regiment has only two commissioned officers left. Our Col was wounded & taken prisoner, Lieut Col killed, Major seriously wounded, of the line officers I can tell you but little. My Captain (Keenan) is wounded through the hip...

...I wrote a few lines to father a few days ago with pencil. I thought you would hear of the battle & worry about me. I am safe & sound so far though I lost my knapsack and all that was in it. So those shirts came just in the nick of time.

I shall have to finish this after dinner & perhaps I'll tell you what I have to dine upon.

Well Emma dinner has been over these two hours but I have not had time until now to finish my letter. Let's see I promised to tell you what I had for dinner. Well I had coffee & bread, & (for a wonder) I had butter to put on my bread & condensed milk to put in my coffee. So you see I fared verry well.

The weather is extremely fine now after a long rain. Roses are in bloom here & snowballs & lots of other flowers, apples as large as robbins eggs, cherry begin to turn red. It would be splendid down here if 'twas not for this terrable war. I think Genl Grant will soon finish it up and then we'll all go home once more. Tell them good bye or 'till I write again.

Give my love to all, AP Hoadley

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Fredericksburg, VA

The new commander of the Army of the Potomac, Ambrose Burnside, slipped away from Lee and came close to outflanking him at Fredericksburg. Unfortunately, the pontoon bridge Burnside needed for crossing the Rappahannock River was slow in arriving, so Lee was able to fortify Marye's Heights, overlooking Fredericksburg. Burnside should have abandoned his plans, but his overwhelming troop strength (113,000 vs. Lee's 75,000) may have made him overconfident. Repeated frontal assaults on Marye's Heights resulted in enormous Union losses, and one of the most decisive defeats of the war. Lincoln fired Burnside, and replaced him with Joseph "Fighting Joe" Hooker.

Lincoln's Generals

President Lincoln spent much of the war looking for generals who would persistently fight the Southern armies. Most of the Union army's campaigns on the all-important Virginia front began and ended with one battle.

The Civil War was a very personal affair: most of the opposing major commanders knew each other, had been classmates at West Point and learned the same tactics and methodology of war. Some had even fought together in the Mexican War and frontier Indian campaigns.

Most of Lincoln's generals were very conscious of the Union's superiority in manpower and industry, but had difficulty using this knowledge for strategic gain. Because the Confederate commanders were equally aware of their own weaknesses, they strove for a decisive victory to win the war with one blow, or tried to gain breathing space to rebuild their forces. Northern generals inexplicable did the same. These commanders were repeatedly replaced until men like U.S. Grant and William T. Sherman gained command of armies.

Modern weapons combined with outmoded tactics ensured huge casualties, but very few decisive results. Unlike their predecessors, Grant and Sherman understood that it was not as important to win battles as it was to wear down the enemy week after week. The Confederates could not win this kind of war even when they North suffered three or four times as many casualties as the South.

Hospital 3d Div 1st AC
Dec 10th, 1864 Culpepper Va

Dear Emma

I received a letter from you the next day after Christmas but have not had an opportunity to answer untill now. My work is not hard but it keeps me busy most of the time.

Since I received your letter I have been sick with chronic diarrhoea. Have got entirely over that and am feeling pretty well now.

Our Hospital is in the town of Culpepper. I think we shall stay through the winter.

The name of the place we were at last before we came here was Paoli Mills, while there I wrote for a box but it has not got here yet,... I calculate on having a good time when it does come. That is as good as circumstances will permit...

...There is not much news here to write. Our brigade which was the 2nd and the first are now all in one and known as the 1st Brigade.

Today I have had to attend to the burying of four men, and an other died today at noon. The most of them die with Typhoid fever & Chronic diarrhoea.

I shall have to give up trying to get a furlough untill toward spring at least. They give all the married men the first chance.

Is Amelia at home this winter? You didn't say a word about the young folks around there or whether anything is going on in the place.

...It is now ten oclock and time that I was in bed gathering strength for the coming day. So now be a good girl and answer this as punctually as you did the other.

Yours affectionately
A P Hoadley

Amputation, Infection, and Disease

Existing medical technology and services were unprepared for the immense numbers of sick and wounded needing treatment. The Civil War resulted in 620,000 deaths and ten million cases of sickness. Approximately 389,000 of these men simply died from disease. In addition, many of the wounded subsequently died of complications resulting from infection and disease.

In the first year of the war, a quarter of the Union army and half of the Confederate army were on sick call. Soldiers' knowledge of hygiene was often poor (improperly placed latrine areas, for example), and sanitary conditions in the military camps became terrible. Epidemics of measles, diphtheria, and other diseases raged. Contaminated drinking water repeatedly caused dysentery in almost every soldier in both armies.

Clara Barton, Humanitarian

She was not a nurse in the conventional sense of the term. In fact, female nurses on the battlefield were unusual during the Civil War. Subject to tight controls, only the most docile and obedient women became army nurses. Independent and strong-willed, Clara Barton would never have passed muster.

Yet she would not be held back from serving her nation. Beginning in April of 1861, Barton collected and distributed medical supplies. The following year she obtained the Surgeon-General's permission "to go among the sick transports...for the purpose of distributing comforts for the sick and wounded, and nursing them." She was at Antietam and at the Battle of the Wilderness. Wherever she was needed, Barton was there. "She was like an angel, an angel of the battlefield," noted one brigade surgeon.

After the war Barton devoted herself to humanitarian causes. Her legacy is the organization that she founded in 1881 -- The American Red Cross.

Satterlee U.S.A. Genl Hosptl
Ward B West Philada Pa
January 4th 1865

Dear Cous & Friends

I recd your kind letter several days ago and will now try to answer it.

We have entered upon another year with all its responsibilities & vicissitudes its joys and hardships.

...I am really sorry to hear that Wilber is drafted again. It is rather a hard blow for him, but my advice is for him to go and not go to selling off his property to hire a substitute. I know it is hard to leave his family, but it is the best thing he can do unless he can get exempt.

There is no use trying to shirk this thing the men have got to come out if they expect to stop the Rebellion and the sooner the better...

...I verry well know that the army is no desirable place. There are hardships to endure which all of us would gladly avoid but just recollect what our revolutionary ancestors suffered, and all for the sake of the same country which we are now called upon to defend. Our sufferings are trivial compared to theirs.

The time is fast approaching that shall see us once more a peaceful and happy nation and that curse of humanity torne from our country forever. Slavery is near its end in this country. And now as I think I have said enough on that subject. I will leave it and try something else.

That butter lasted untill after Christmas. Wouldn't care if I had the pail full again. We had a verry nice Christmas dinner. Wish you could have been here. Should like'd right well to have spent New Year with you but suppose some other day will do as well.

And now I guess I have written enough for once so I will close asking you to write soon to
Your Cous A P Hoadley

Slavery's Cruel Yoke

Southern slave holders tried to portray themselves as benevolent caretakers. They insisted that the worst abuses of the system had disappeared when the African slave trade was abolished in 1808.

Various states had laws to protect slaves from cruel treatment, but these were seldom enforced and Blacks had little opportunity to seek aid. Most Southerners considered physical abuse to be despicable (on a par with bad manners), but were unwilling to help. Field hands could be whipped for laziness. Recaptured runaways were sometimes branded or "hobbled" which damaged the legs or feet so that running was impossible.

Harriet Tubman: 1820?--1913
The Woman Called Moses

Harriet Ross Tubman was born around 1820, but no one was sure of the exact date. She was born into slavery. Her father, Ben Ross, and her mother, Old Rit, were slaves. They had eleven children and lived in a small, one-room cabin on a Maryland plantation. They all worked from dawn to dusk for their master, Edward Bradas, who owned many slaves.

Harriet was convinced that being a slave was about the worst experience a person could have. When Harriet decided to risk her life and try to escape from slavery, she knew of a system that might help her. That system was the Underground Railroad, a series of safe places set up along the many miles she would have to travel before she reached freedom. The Underground Railroad was loosely organized by many groups of people who felt that slavery must end. These people were called abolitionists.

Harriet Tubman escaped to her freedom and joined the abolitionists. She returned to the South again and again to guide fugitives north, often risking her life. Altogether, she helped more than 200 men, women, and children escape from slavery. When the Civil War broke out, northern army leaders asked Harriet to help with the runaway slaves who were escaping into Yankee territory. She worked in hospitals and served as a scout, all without pay because she believed that the war would be the end of slavery in America.

Sherburne Barracks
Washington City DC
Feb 6th 1863

Dear Friends

I have not heard from you in some time so concluded to write again.

...I have comparatively easy times here on duty. Once in four or five days we are doing guard duty at the Carroll prison. I shall be on guard tomorrow so thought I would write this today. Would have written before but was waiting to hear from you.

I have not been paid yet. I am sorry for I did not intend to keep you waiting so long for that money that I got of you. Will send it as soon as I get it. Which I hope will be before a great while.

If Chas runs his own lumber in the spring and I am here I would like to have him come down to Washington. It will be a good time for him to make his visit to the Capitol. If he wants to do so should be glad to go about with him and visit the different places...

Write soon and give me the details.
Your friend & Cous
A.P. Hoadley
Co K 12th Regt VRC
Washington DC

Prisons and Prisoners

Neither the Union nor the Confederacy were prepared for prisoners of war. Prisoners were exchanged until 1863, when the agreement was suspended at the insistence of U.S. Grant. He felt that the North, with more men, could better afford having some stay in prison camps than could the South. The policy was intelligent militarily, but had tragic consequences for both sides.

Prison camps were bound to be as bad or worse than the dreadful care existing for soldiers in the field. Here, two camps -- one North, one South -- will illustrate the tragic situation.

Andersonville, Georgia

Established in February 1864, this prison camp became the Confederacy's largest and most infamous. Thousands of prisoners arrived before any permanent barracks were built...and none ever were. By August 32,000 inmates were crowded into a 26-acre stockade open to all weather conditions, with a single polluted creek as their source for water.

Confederate resources were hopelessly inadequate for the task of caring for so many prisoners. Out of 49,485 inmates received, 12,912 died of malnutrition and disease. Photographs of the emaciated prisoners remind us of Nazi Germany's death camps. After the war, the camp commandant, Capt. Henry Wirz, was tried and executed.

Rock Island, Illinois

Called the "Andersonville of the North." it opened in December 1863 and also received inmates before the facilities were finished. The population reached a peak of 8,600. An epidemic of smallpox killed hundreds. There was no camp hospital until July 1864, because the Union Commissary-General of Prisoners was concerned with economizing, and considered it an unnecessary expense. During imprisonment, 1,964 Confederates died, along with 125 Union guards.

"Copperheads" and Southern sympathizers made Rock Island the focus of intrigue. But numerous plots for rescuing the prisoners and seizing the arsenal never amounted to much.

Sherburne Barracks Washington D.C.
April 21st 1865

Dear Sister

I received your letter today and was rejoiced at the good news it brought and also glad to get the money that Father sent. It will enable me to procure stamps and paper of which I use a great deal.

...The City is draped in the sable habiliments of mourning. The death of the president has cast a gloom over the whole nation. I believe the assassion is still at large. Though several persons have been arrested supposed to be accomplices. The President's death will be of no advantage to the Confederacy that is past recovery. No power on earth can save it.

We still continue to receive good news from the front. The war is fast approaching an end.

Who dares to say now that the South can never be whipped & that we are going to have four years more war? If any they are those who "having" eyes see not and having ears hear not. Neither do they understand. They are blind followers of a blind guide and you know what is said in regard to the "blind leading the blind". And so it is true that Old Dr Lee has seen his folly and repented at the "11th hour".

Emma if you are going to teach this summer you will need some money to fix yourself. I will send you ten dollars as soon as I get paid. Which you can use as you need it most. I will send to Father he will give it to you.

We have been on duty most of the time since the murder of the president. This morning they started with his remains for Springfield, Ill. I saw him yesterday. I have a piece of cloth which I will send in this. It is a piece of the covering of the Bier of President Lincoln. I wish you to take good care of it and not let it get lost for I prise it very highly. When I get home I will have it worked with worsted and keep it as a relic.

It is nearly dress parad time and I must close for this time.
A.P. Hoadley

The Death of Father Abraham
April 14-15, 1865

Laughter had muffled the sound of the shot and few people in Ford's Theater that night immediately realized what had happened. A man had jumped to the stage from the president's box and the first lady was screaming. Those brief moments of confusion would be followed by months of mourning. The president had been assassinated -- nearly four years to the day after the start of the war.

The assassin had not hidden his identity. John Wilkes Booth was well known to those in the theater as were his views on the president. "Our country owed all our troubles to him," Booth once wrote of Lincoln, "and God made me the instrument of His punishment." But few took Booth seriously.

The theater was in chaos and as the crowd rushed for the exits, two doctors fought to save the president's life. Lincoln was carried across the street to a boarding house where he died the next morning.

Grief and anger spread across the nation. As Lincoln was prepared for burial, Union soldiers hunted for Booth and his fellow conspirators. Booth was killed in a shootout; the rest were tried as traitors and hung from the gallows.

Lincoln lay in state in the Capitol and was later transported by train across the nation to his final resting place in Springfield, Illinois. Father Abraham had come home, one of the last casualties of the war to save the Union.

Camp Cooking
1861 - 1865

The following authentic recipes and documented quotations were compiled by Patricia B. Mitchell, with the help of the staff of the Pittsylvania County (Virginia) Public Library and Susan G. Cumbey of the Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site (Alexandria, Virginia).

The revised addition of *Union Army Camp Cooking* can be purchased at the Rock Island Museum Gift Shop along with its counterpoint *Cooking for the Cause, Confederate Camp Cooking, and Confederate Home Cooking.* (Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL 61299).

"Union Army Camp Cooking"

The U.S. Surgeon General Hammond rightfully stated that the Union soldier had the most abundant food allowance of any soldier in the world. The daily allowance for the Union soldier was: "twelve ounces of pork or bacon, or, one pound and four ounces of salt or fresh beef; one pound and six ounces of soft bread or flour, or one pound of hard bread, or one pound and four ounces of corn meal; and to every one hundred rations, fifteen pounds of beans or peas, and ten pounds of rice or hominy; ten pounds of green coffee, or, eight pounds of roasted (or roasted and ground) coffee, or, one pound and eight ounces of tea; fifteen pounds of sugar; four quarts of vinegar;...three pounds and twelve ounces of salt; four ounces of pepper, thirty pounds of potatoes, when practicable, and one quart of molasses."

In addition to this quantity of food, men in blue were well-provisioned by the folks back home, who sent boxes of such "delicacies" as biscuits, pies, fried cakes, ginger snaps and other pungent treats, dried berries, dried beef, and apple sauce.

Following are three recipes from which you can create some of the contents of that 19th-century "care package."

SODA BISCUITS

4 c. whole wheat flour
2 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. soda
1/2 tsp. salt
2 tbsp. butter
About 2 1/3 c. milk

Mix dry ingredients; cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal. Pour in enough milk to moisten well. Place tablespoons of batter on greased baking sheets, and bake at 425 degrees F. for approximately 12 minutes or until lightly browned.

GINGERBREAD

1/2 c. sugar
1/2 c. shortening
1 egg, beaten
1 c. molasses or sorghum syrup
2 1/2 c. sifted flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 tsp. soda
1 tsp. ginger
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 c. hot water

Cream sugar and shortening; add egg, and molasses or sorghum; beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients; mix well. Add hot water and mix. Pour batter into a greased 9 x 12 inch pan; bake at 350 degrees F. for 35 minutes. Serve hot; or cold with whipped cream; or split gingerbread and spread with bananas and whipped cream.

SPICE CAKES

"Melt tea-cup of butter, mix it with a tea-cup of sugar and half a tea-cup of molasses. Stir in a tea-spoonful of cinnamon, the same quantity of ginger, a grated nutmeg and a tea-spoonful each of caraway and coriander seed -- put in a tea-spoonful of saleratus, dissolved in half a tea-cup of water, stir in flour till stiff enough to roll out thin, cut it into cakes, and bake them in a slow oven."

John D. Billings (an officer in Sickles' Third and Hancock's Second Corps, Army of the Potomac) lists the following "articles for the repair of solace of the inner man" as being likely contents of boxes from home: "pudding, turkey, pickles, onions, pepper, paper, envelopes, stockings, potatoes, chocolate, condensed milk, sugar, broma, butter, sauce preservative (for the boots)." He goes on to mention "woollen shirts, towels, a pair of boots made to order, some needles, thread, buttons, and yarn" in the line of dry goods, and a boiled ham, tea, cheese, cake, preserve (as jam or jelly).

Food gifts from loved ones were anticipated, enjoyed and shared with tremendous glee.

Sutlers provided still more variety to the soldiers' diet with edible wares of pies, molasses cakes or cookies, candy, raisins, soda crackers, loaf sugar, molasses, flour (including "self-raising" flour), butter, eggs, cheese, bacon, salt fish, mackerel, lemons, oranges, apples, ginger ale, "pop," and other "soft" drinks. They also sold canned goods, as well as tobacco and cigars, and sometimes liquor. Ofttimes, due to the unpredictability of army life, perishable goods which the sutler had in stock were kept too long and spoiled. Butter, especially, often became rancid. This defect, however, did not always motivate the salesman to dispose of the rotten items. Sometimes he attempted to sell the merchandise in its "aged" condition.

An old-fashioned candy recipe sure to appeal to, rather than repel, the taste buds is the following Federal Fudge.

FEDERAL FUDGE

2 c. sugar
2 squares chocolate (or equivalent cocoa)
1 tsp. vanilla
2-3 c. milk
2 tbsp. corn syrup
2 tbsp. butter

Put sugar, milk, chocolate, and syrup together. Stir until sugar is melted. When temperature of 236 degrees F. or soft ball stage is reached, put in the vanilla and butter. Put aside to cool and, when cool, beat and spread on a marble slab or buttered pan. Cut in squares.

Despite soldiers' murmurings against the prices charged by sutlers and the unpalatability of their food offerings, the sutler did provide a worthwhile service to the men in uniform. The merchant-in-a-wagon faced the ordeals of being relatively near battle action and on roads often vulnerable to enemy troops, and the possibility of his targeted "sales area" (i. e., a particular encamped unit) suddenly being ordered to the front lines, leaving the sutler to ring up "NO SALE." To commemorate the traveling merchant, bake these wonderfully scrumptious non-routine biscuits, and pretend that you just purchased "self-raising" flour, sugar, cheese, and milk from an eager-to-please sutler!

CELEBRATION SUTLERS BISCUITS

2 c. self-rising flour, or 1 c. all-purpose or unbleached flour and
1 c. whole wheat flour

1 tbsp. baking power
1/2 - 3/4 tsp. salt
(baking powder and salt not needed if self-rising flour is used)

2 tbsp. sugar
3 tbsp. melted butter (or margarine or vegetable oil)
1 c. (or more) milk
1/2 c. Cheddar cheese

Combine the dry ingredients. In a separate bowl, mix oil and milk. Combine the mixtures and stir in the cheese. Place large spoonfuls of the batter on a greased baking sheet, and bake at 400 degrees F. for 8-10 minutes.

"Our **coffee** when we first went out was issued to us green, so that we had to roast and grind it, which was not always a success, some of it being burnt, while some would be almost green. In roasting it we put a quantity of it in a mess pan, and placed the pan over the fire would have to keep stirring it round with a stick in order to have it roasted as evenly as possible.

"These mess pans were used to fry our pork in and also as a wash bason. Our soup, coffee and meat were boiled in camp kettles suspended over the fire, which were also used for boiling our dirty clothes. Not a very nice thing for a soup pot, especially when they were full of vermin, as they were most of the time when on active service."

Hardtack, the celebrated Civil War edible, is defined here:

"I will speak of the rations more in detail, beginning with the hard bread, or to use the name by which it was known in the Army of the Potomac, **Hardtack**. What was hardtack? It was a plain flour and water biscuit. Two which I have in my possession as mementos measure three and one-eighth inch by two and seven-eighths inches, and are nearly half an inch thick. Although these biscuits were furnished to organizations by weight, they were dealt out to the men by number, nine constituting a ration in some regiments and ten in others; but there were usually enough for those who wanted more, as some men would not draw them. While hardtack was nutritious, yet a hungry man could eat his ten in a short time and still be hungry."

The men joked about hardtack, some of which was substandard. The crackers were called (among other things) "worm castles," "sheetiron crackers," and "tooth dullers."

HARDTACK

Use one part water to six parts flour. Mix and knead. Roll dough flat and score into cracker shapes. Bake 20-25 minutes and cool off until completely dry before storing in canisters. The crackers should be hard as bricks and indestructibly unappetizing.

The Civil War soldier had a culinary love affair going with **beans**, it seems -- an attraction based as much on availability of the legumes as desirability. Abner Small of the 16th Maine Volunteers reported:

"Long, weary marches were patiently endured if in the distant perspective could be seen the company bean-hole. (The hole was dug and the pot of beans put in overnight.) In the early morning I would hang around a particular hole, and ask Ben to just lift the cover and let me get a sniff for an appetizer...."

John Billings explains more about beans:

"The bean ration was an important factor in the sustenance of the army, and no edible, I think, was so thoroughly appreciated. Company cooks stewed them with pork, and when the pork was good and the stew or soup was well done and not burned -- a rare combination of circumstances -- they were quite palatable in this way. Sometimes ovens were built of stones, on top of the ground, and the beans were baked in these, in mess pans or kettles. But I think the most popular method was to bake them in the ground. This was the almost invariable course pursued by the soldiers when the beans were distributed for them to cook. It was done in the following way: A hole was dug large enough to set a mess pan or kettle in, and have ample space around it besides. Mess kettles, let me explain here, are cylinders in shape, and made of heavy sheet iron. They are 13 to 15 inches high, and vary in diameter from 7 inches to a foot. A mess pan stands about 6 inches high, and is a foot in diameter at the top. I think one will hold nearly 6 quarts. To resume; -- in the bottom of the hole dug a flat stone was put, if it could be obtained, then a fire was built in the hold and kept burning some hours, the beans being prepared for baking meanwhile. When all was ready the coals were shovelled out, the kettle of beans and pork set it, with a board over the top, while the coals were shovelled back around the kettle; some poles or boards were then laid across the hole, a piece of sacking or other material spread over the poles to exclude dirt, and a mound of earth piled above all; the net result of which, when the hole was opened the next morning, was the most enjoyable dish that fell to the lot of the common soldier."

Next is included a popular song of the day, and then a delicious commemorative bean recipe.

(TO THE TUNE OF "THE SWEET BYE AND BYE")

"There's a spot that the soldiers all love, The mess-tent is the place that we mean, And the dish that we like to see there is the old-fashioned, white Army bean.

CHORUS:
Tis the bean that we mean, And we'll eat as we ne'er ate before, The Army bean, nice and clean; We will stick to our beans evermore."

EARTHWORKS BEANS

2 cans (around 16 oz. each) Great Northern Beans
1/4 c. brown sugar
1/4 c. molasses
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. prepared mustard
2 onions, cut in rings

Combine everything, and spoon into an oven-to-table casserole dish. Bake uncovered for 30 minutes at 400 degrees F.

Another blessing which the Union soldier sometimes enjoyed was a visitation by "angel of mercy" **Mary Ann Bickerdyke**, a Quaker widow from Kansas who also served as a Sanitary Commission agent through four years and nineteen battles.

Once when a Union Army surgeon questioned on whose authority she was acting, she replied, "On the authority of God Almighty. Have you anything that outranks that?" General Sherman, who allowed no female visitor in his camps other than Mother Bickerdyke, admitted he made the exception for her because "She ranks me."

"Our camp was visited today by Mother Bickerdyke with four mule teams loaded with good things from the North for the soldiers. Left us three barrels of potatoes, turnips, carrots, etc., one barrel of sourkraut with one of dried apples.

Noble woman. I still remember with gratitude the motherly interest she took in my welfare while lying in the hospital at Corinth. Here again she comes with that which she has gathered by her own labor in the North, not leaving it to be wholly absorbed by surgeons, directors and officers, as is too often the case with sanitary goods. She comes along in a mule wagon and delivers it herself to the "good boys" as she terms us, without seeking the officers. She drew a large crowd around her soon. Her glowing, welcoming face, filled with cordiality, had a magnetic influence upon the hearts of all, such a contrast to the haughty, disdainful looks we are accustomed to receive from women in general. May God bless her noble, self-sacrificing spirit, is the soldier's prayer.

BOOKS ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR FOR GRADES 5-6

FICTION

Beatty, Patricia. Charley Skedaddle. Morrow,1987. A 12-year-old Bowery Boy joins the Union Army as a drummer, deserts during a battle in Virginia and encounters a hostile mountain woman.

Beatty, Patricia. Jayhawker. Morrow, 1992 Lije Tully, Kansas farm boy, becomes a Jayhawker, helping to free slaves from the neighboring state of Missouri.

Fleischman, Paul. Bull Run. HarperCollins, 1993. Short narratives portraying various viewpoints about the war. Could be used as readers' theater play.

Hansen, Joyce. Which Way Freedom? Walker, 1986. American History Series for young People. Obi escapes from slavery and joins a black Union regiment.

Wisler, G. Clifton. Red Cap. Lodestar, 1991. Story of a drummer boy for the Union Army.

BIOGRAPHY

Chang, Ina. A Separate Battle: Women and the Civil War. Lodestar, 1991. Part of the Young Readers' History of the Civil War series.

Freedman, Russell. Lincoln, A Photobiography. Clarion, 1987. Newbery Award winner. A great read-aloud.

Reit, Seymour. Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy. Gulliver, 1988.

NONFICTION

Murphy, Jim. The Boys' War. Clarion, 1990. One of the best books about the Civil War for upper elementary. Some schools have multiple copies for classroom use.

Ray, Delia. Behind the Blue and Gray: The Soldier's Life in the Civil War. Lodestar, 1991. A highly readable volume...an intense portrayal of the military experience.

Ray, Delia. A Nation Torn: The Story of How the Civil War Began. Lodestar Books, 1990. Listed as a book of outstanding merit in the *Children's Books of the Year* directory.

Smith, Carter. Sourcebooks on the Civil War series. Millbrook Press. Good sources for information. Consists of 6 titles full of engravings, prints, photos, maps, primary source material. A lot of text for most fifth graders.

Weiner, Eric. The Civil War. Smithmark, 1992. Facts on America series.